



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 141

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1995

No. 13

## Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, January 10, 1995)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Richard C. Halverson, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

In a moment of silence, let us remember Senator KENNEDY and the whole Kennedy family in the loss of the remarkable, resilient, Rose Kennedy.

*Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.*—Proverbs 16:3.

Eternal God, omnipotent (all powerful), omniscient (all-wise), and omniscient (everywhere at once), we come to Thee on behalf of the Senators and their legislative staffs. Decisions are often difficult to make, even when they involve only ourselves or our families; but decisions made here impact States, counties, cities, and millions of people.

Gracious, all-knowing Lord, grant to these decisionmakers, aware of their limitations and fallibility, wisdom from above as they struggle to fulfill the mandates which they believe were expressed by the people in the last election. Grant the Senators grace to commit their works unto Thee, that their thoughts may be established in the light of truth.

We pray in His name who is the Light of the World. Amen.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning the time for the two leaders is reserved.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, there will be a period for the transaction of rou-

time morning business until 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak for not to exceed 5 minutes each with the exception of the following Senators: Senators GRASSLEY and PRYOR for 15 minutes equally divided; Senator CONRAD for up to 30 minutes.

At 10:30, the Senate will resume the consideration of S. 1, the unfunded mandates bill. Under the previous consent agreement, there will be no roll-call votes prior to 4 p.m. today. Also, I wish to remind the Senators that under the agreement Senators who have amendments on the list that was agreed to have until 3 p.m. Tuesday to offer their amendments.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. PRYOR. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. PRYOR and Mr. GRASSLEY pertaining to the introduction of S. 258 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAMS). Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:30 a.m. with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes each.

Under the previous order, the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. CONRAD] is recognized to speak for up to 30 minutes.

Mr. CONRAD. I thank the Chair.

### FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to issue a warning to those in Congress who are suggesting we eliminate or deeply slash the Federal farm programs.

These programs have given American consumers the lowest price and highest quality food in the world. These programs have helped make America's farmers preeminent among the world's food producers. They have helped agriculture produce a \$17 billion surplus in trade, one of the largest of any American industry. These programs are the foundation of a \$950 billion industry employing over 23 million Americans that delivers food and fiber to American families.

To those who would kill our farm programs, I say this amounts to unilateral disarmament in the battle for world agricultural markets. It is an unwise dismantling of our successful national food policy. Our agriculture programs are the foundation on which much of our ability to meet international competition is based. They are also the foundation for our national food policy, which has helped us become the most richly abundant nation in the world. No one would have suggested we do away with our missile defenses during the cold war. Yet some now suggest we do away with the farm programs that work for millions of Americans in the food industry and for all American consumers.

Let me just explain very clearly why U.S. farm policy is right for America. First, our agriculture policy is vital for preserving our international competitiveness. Second, agriculture is a fundamentally unique type of business. Third, Federal farm programs are crucial for American consumers.

Despite these compelling arguments, some people assume farm programs are an appropriate place to slash and even eliminate America's commitment to our most basic industry. Why do they assume this? Mr. President, I believe it is complacency. We have been so well

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S1293